

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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February 8, 1993

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street Suite 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC PR docket #92-235

Douglas County has developed a 9-1-1 emergency telephone system around a consolidated communications center, which receives 9-1-1 emergency calls for police, fire and medical agencies, then notifies the proper public safety agency by way of VHF radio system operating in the 150 Mhz band.

All public safety agencies in Douglas County participate in the 9-1-1 emergency telephone system, and receive their emergency calls for service directly or indirectly from the consolidated communications center. The consolidation of emergency radio communications (Dispatch) service is very cost effective for all public safety agencies in Douglas County.

Douglas County Oregon is mostly mountainous terrain, covers approximately 5089 square miles, with elevations ranging from 9182 feet in the Cascades, to sea level at the Pacific Ocean near Winchester Bay.

The proposed rule changes, that would limit maximum authorized effective radiated power (ERP) with respect to the antenna height above the average terrain, would result in Douglas County having to reduce the transmitter out-put power to 5 watts at most of the county radio sites, which would more than likely put the Douglas County Consolidated Emergency Communications Center out of Business.

If Douglas County Communications could not function, all public safety agencies in Douglas County would have to develop their own communications systems, costing each agency, and using more of the already full radio frequency spectrum.

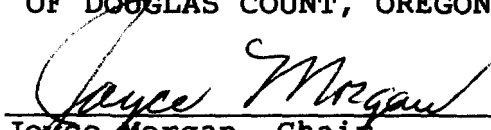
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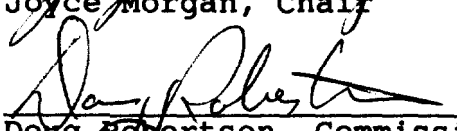
Federal Communications Commissions, Continued

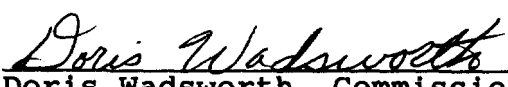
The proposed rule changes would be devastating to public safety in the suburban and rural areas like Douglas County. The cost of any replacement of simplex base stations and or repeaters and to have to add additional mountain top sites to cover the County would be cost prohibitive.

Douglas County Board of Commissioners is protesting these proposed rule changes and would like to see some exceptions in the rural areas in the Pacific Northwest.

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OF DOUGLAS COUNT, OREGON


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Doug Robertson, Commissioner


Doris Wadsworth, Commissioner

C:
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Senator Hatfield
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